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FLOOR DEBATE

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LR 209

that number is fantasy, I think, because that number is built on the revenue presumption that I think is wildly off the mark. And when we return in January, or sooner, which may happen, we're going to be facing a financial deficit larger than any state legislature has ever seen in the history of our state. And even if we raise taxes next year, and that's not a foregone conclusion, but even if we raise taxes next year we're going to be making cuts that we never dreamed we would have to make. Some very valuable programs are going to be cut. There's just no doubt about that. And I think Senator Chambers has the better policy argument that you don't write into your state constitution that certain institutions should enjoy a constitutional lock on appropriations. I don't think you do that, particularly in this era, in light of the financial problem that we're facing. Nevertheless, I will vote for cloture on this bill. I think Senator Landis summed up my views pretty well. This is not the kind of a policy issue that ought to be subject of a filibuster. I'm going to vote yes on cloture. I'm still very uneasy about the underlying proposition. I don't know what I'll do on Final Reading on that. I don't if I'll be one of those 30 votes that he needs, but for today I'll be a yes on cloture. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Foley. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a priority motion. Senator Landis would move to invoke cloture, pursuant to Rule 7, Section 10.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. The Chair finds that there has been a full and fair debate afforded of this topic, and we proceed to a closure vote. At this time, members, the question before us would be, shall debate cease by invoking of the closure rule? And, Senator Landis, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR LANDIS: May be have a call of the house, Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Landis has requested a call of the house. All in favor of the house going under call please vote aye, and opposed nay. Please record.